

## **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES**

The conference agreement includes \$283,132,000 for the internal (core) research account of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, instead of \$280,136,000 as proposed in the House bill, and \$288,128,000 as proposed in the Senate bill.

The conference agreement provides funds for the core research programs of NIST as follows:

Electronics and Electrical Engineering	\$38,771,000
Manufacturing Engineering	19,560,000
Chemical Science and Technology	32,493,000
Physics	28,697,000
Material Sciences and Engineering	52,010,000
Building and Fire Research	15,331,000
Computer Science and Applied Mathematics	45,352,000
Technology Assistance	17,723,000
Baldrige Quality Awards	4,958,000
Research Support	29,237,000
Subtotal, STRS	284,132,000
Deobligations	(1,000,000)
Total, STRS	283,132,000

The increase provided in the conference agreement above fiscal year 1999 is largely to fund increases in base requirements. The conference agreement also includes sufficient funding for selected program increases for the highest priority programs in computer science and applied mathematics and in technology assistance, and \$1,600,000 to continue the disaster research program on effects of windstorms on protective structures and other technologies begun in fiscal year 1998. NIST is directed to follow the guidance included in the House report regarding the placement of NIST personnel overseas.

**“Taken from House Conference Report 106-398  
to accompany the FY 2000 Omnibus appropriations bill...”**

### **INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

The conference agreement includes \$247,436,000 for the NIST external research account instead of \$99,836,000 as proposed in the House bill, and \$336,336,000 as proposed in the Senate bill.

Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program.--The conference agreement includes \$104,836,000 for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program (MEP), instead of \$99,836,000 as proposed in the House bill, and \$109,836,000 as proposed in the Senate bill. The conference agreement does not contain the limitation on a Center's level of funding proposed in the House bill.

The conferees concur with the Senate direction that the Northern Great Plains Initiative e-commerce project should assist small manufacturers for marketing and business development purposes in rural areas.

Advanced Technology Program.--The conference agreement includes \$142,600,000 for the Advanced Technology Program (ATP), instead of \$226,500,000 as proposed in the Senate bill, and no funding as proposed in the House bill. This is \$60,900,000 below the fiscal year 1999 appropriation, and \$96,100,000 below the original request. At the end of fiscal year 1999, the Administration revised the overall level requested for the program downward from \$251,500,000 to \$215,000,000, in part because the amount awarded for new grants in fiscal year 1999 totaled \$41,500,000, which was \$24,500,000 below the amount available for new awards. The amount of carryover into fiscal year 2000 was also substantially higher than had been anticipated. The requested level of new awards for fiscal year 2000 was also revised downward from \$73,000,000 to \$54,700,000. The funding levels contained in the conference agreement were considered in response to that revised request.

The recommendation provides the following: (1) \$115,100,000 for continued funding requirements for awards made in fiscal years 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999, to be derived from \$46,700,000 in fiscal year 2000 funding, \$64,600,000 from excess balances available from prior years, and \$3,800,000 in anticipated deobligations in fiscal year 2000; (2) \$50,700,000 for new awards in fiscal year 2000; and (3) \$45,200,000 for administration, internal NIST lab support and Small Business Innovation Research requirements.

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The conference agreement permits up to \$500,000 of funding to be transferred to the Working Capital Fund, as proposed in the Senate bill.

**CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES**

The conference agreement provides \$108,414,000 for construction, renovation and maintenance of NIST facilities, instead of \$56,714,000 as proposed in the House bill, and \$117,500,000 as proposed in the Senate bill.

Of this amount, \$84,916,000 is for construction of the Advanced Metrology Laboratory. This will provide the balance of funds needed to initiate construction. Total funding available for construction, including funding provided in previous years, is \$203,300,000. The conference agreement includes bill language making the \$84,916,000 provided for this Laboratory available upon submission of a spending plan in accordance with Section 605 of this Act.

In addition, \$11,798,000 is provided for safety, capacity, maintenance and major repair of NIST facilities.

In addition, \$11,700,000 is provided for grants and cooperative agreements.